

In the Name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful
Peace and Blessings be upon all of His Chosen Messengers

"Let there be no compulsion in religion..."
Glorious Qur'aan. Chapter 2, verse 256

"Despite your religious or non-religious attitudes, the Holy Qur'aan is a boon to your intellectual and moral strength. Even if you are not concerned with moral issues, then pamper your intellectual curiosity and read the Qur'aan. The greater the level of your education, *in any field*, or the greater your social or political standing in your community, the more reason why you should procure your own copy of the Book and begin to read it¹."

Comparison between Hinduism and Islam according to the Sacred Scriptures of both Religions: The Holy Vedas² and the Glorious Qur'aan

Contents

Chapter One	2
Introduction	2
Definition of Hindu and Hinduism	2
Islam, Muslim and Al-Qur'aan	3
Chapter Two	12
Common Questions asked by Hindus about Islam	12
Quotations from the Hindu Scriptures predicting The coming of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh)	24
The Glorious Qur'aan	28
Conclusion	51

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² Quotes are also given from other sacred Hindu scriptures

Chapter One

Introduction

Emma Goldman said in the 20th century C.E.

"The most violent element in society is ignorance!"

The Prophet of Islam said in the 7th century C.E.:

"Most certainly knowledge is the cure for ignorance!"

It is important to note that to understand any religion or belief system, it is vitally important to go to the main source i.e the *Authentic Religious Scriptures*. It is not prudent to observe the practices of the followers of a particular religion to draw a conclusion about the faith, as the majority of the followers of these religions are themselves unaware of the *true teachings* of their faith. By reading and understanding the authentic Scriptures of Hinduism, Christianity and Islam, one can dispel any misconceptions one may have regarding the other's beliefs.

The object of this booklet is to encourage the readers to read their Own Sacred Scriptures³ so that they can know and understand the true concept of God as stated in the respective Scriptures.

It is a poignant fact that religious personalities prevent their followers from reading their own scriptures with understanding because of vested interests, and this is a cause of enormous concern, as this ignorance leads to hatred, riots and deaths etc.

Note to readers: Please do not make any hasty judgement of this booklet before reading it all the way through.

We shall begin with the definition of a 'Hindu' and a 'Muslim'.

Definition of Hindu and Hinduism

Surprisingly the word 'Hindu' is not mentioned in any of the Sacred Scriptures of the Hindu religion. According to Pundit Jawarlall Nehru in his book titled 'Discovery of India', he says on pages 74/75, that this term 'Hindu' was first used in the 8th century C.E⁴ to describe a group of people living in India near the Indus river, and had no connotations with

³ Muslims, Hindus & Christians

⁴ Christian Era

the religious beliefs or the religious practices of those people. Another similar explanation mentioned is in the Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics Vol 6, reference 699, which also states that it is a geographical description.

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica Vol 20, reference 581, the British first used this term 'Hindu' in India in 1830 to describe the religion practiced by those people living near the Indus River. Prior to this, the word Hindu was not associated with the religious belief of the people of India.

According to some of the learned Hindu Scholars the correct name for the belief system of the Hindus should be "Sanatana Dharma", which means 'Eternal Religion'. Other scholars say that the correct term should be 'Vedic Dharma', and the followers should be called 'Vedantists', meaning that they follow the teachings of the Vedas.

The following are various Sacred Scriptures of Hinduism: (main ones)

The Vedas	Upanishads
Mabarat	Bhavat Geeta
Puranas	Manusmati

Islam, Muslim and Al-Qur'aan⁵

The word Islam comes from the root word "*salaam*" which means peace, and anyone who submits his/her will to the will of Almighty God⁶ is called a Muslim. The word Muslim is mentioned in the Glorious Qur'aan in a number of verses. One reference is in Chapter 3 verse 64.

The word Islam is also mentioned in many verses of the Qur'aan and one of them is chapter 2, v 208.

Muslims believe that the Qur'an was revealed in **Arabic** to the Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) more than 1,425 years ago, and it is the final revelation from Allah for the guidance to all of humanity. It is the verbatim words of Allah spoken to man.

⁵ The Reading / Proclaiming of the message of Allah

⁶ Muslims prefer to call Almighty God as "ALLAH", as this is in the name He has given to Himself as stated in the Glorious Qur'aan.

. Also Allah is a pure word that cannot be played around with; for instance the word God can be used in a female sense (goddess) or many gods (plural), or godfather etc. However for ease of discussion with non-Muslims we shall use the word God.

The sayings and practices of the Holy Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) are recorded completely separately, and are known as the **Hadiths**.

A very important point has to be made here before proceeding further with this discourse. There is a misconception amongst the majority of non-Muslims that Islam is a new religion that came into existence about 1,425 years ago, and Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is the founder of Islam. This is totally incorrect. In fact, Islam has been in existence since man first set foot on this earth. The Qur'aan states that the message of the ONENESS, UNIQUENESS OF GOD, AND SUBMISSION TO HIS WILL HAS BEEN THE FUNDAMENTAL MESSAGE OF ALL THE PROPHETS SINCE ADAM (peace be upon them all). In other words, Islam is the name given by Allah to His religion⁷ and the one submitting to the will of Allah is called a Muslim.

GOD IS ONE

The Glorious Qur'aan states unequivocally that to every nation Allah had sent a messenger before the advent of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh). *Every prophet had come with the same fundamental message that "God is One".*

The final and completed message from Allah – **Al Qur'aan** was revealed to the Prophet of Islam for the whole of humanity as he was sent for the whole of humankind⁸ as is stated many times in the Glorious Qur'aan. All other Prophets came for the people in their region⁹.

Pillars of faith in Islam

Islam is based on SIX pillars of belief as stated in the Glorious Qur'aan in chapter 2 verse 177:

"It is not righteousness that you turn your faces towards the east or west; but it is righteousness to: believe in Allah, and the Last Day, and the Angels, and the Book, and the Messengers... Such are the people of truth, those who fear Allah".

⁷ The proper description in following Islam is 'a way of life as prescribed in the Glorious Qur'aan'. The word religion is from Greek, which means of: *fear of the gods*. Muslims use the word *religion* in the discussions with non Muslims for ease of discussion although this is not the correct translation.

⁸ one ref: chapter 7 verse 158 of the Glorious Qur'aan

⁹ Example: Moses to Bani Israel. Jesus was sent to his people as he states in: Matthew chapter 15; verse 24

<i>(1) Tawheed - belief in One God only</i>	<i>(4) Prophets / Messengers from Allah</i>
<i>(2) Heavenly Revealed Books</i>	<i>(5) Destiny</i>
<i>(3) Angels</i>	<i>(6) Life in the Hereafter</i>

Obligatory Duties of a Muslim in Islam

- (1) Belief in One Almighty God
- (2) Salaah (Prayer)
- (3) Fasting in the month of Ramadaan
- (4) Zakaah (compulsory charity of 2,5% per annum on un-used wealth for the year)
- (5) Pilgrimage to Makkah once in a lifetime

Pillars of Faith in Hinduism

If one enquires from a common Hindu: How many Gods do you believe in? Some may say 3, others may say 33, and yet some may say 1,000 and even upto 33 million. However, when one enquires from a learned scholar of the Vedas or any of the other sacred Hindu Scriptures, he will say: Only One!

Question: How is it that there is such a big discrepancy in such an important fundamental belief? Answer: *The common Hindu has not studied his scripture and relies on the Pundits for his information.*

Question: Why does he not read it for himself?

Answer: *Because it is written in the Sanskrit¹⁰ language which the common Hindu cannot read and understand.*

*The following are references¹¹ from the different Sacred Hindu Scriptures stating that the Fundamental Belief of Hinduism is: **BELIEF IN ONE GOD ALONE!***

*Chandogya Upanishads, chapter 6, section 2, verse 1 says: **God is only One, without a second.**¹²*

¹⁰ Sanskrit is a 'dead language' as it is not spoken as a language any longer. It would be commendable if all the Holy Books of Hinduism could be translated into English so that the majority of ordinary Hindus in the western world could read and understand it as English has become the main language of most people

¹¹ Please check on these references with the Hindu Scholars to verify from the sacred Books of Hinduism

Equivalent to the Glorious Qur'aan in Surah Ikhlaas-chapter 112 verse 1 which says: "Say, He is Allah the One and Only!"

Shatashvatara Upanishads, chapter 6, verse 9, says: "Of Him there are no parents, no family..."

Shatashvatara Upanishads, chapter 4, verse 19, says: "of Him there is no likeness."

Shatashvatara Upanishads, chapter 4, verse 20, says: "His form cannot be seen, no one can see Him with their eyes..."

The above verses correspond to: The Glorious Qur'aan, chapter 112, verses 2-4: "Allah, the Eternal, Absolute, He begets not, nor is He begotten¹³, and there is none like unto Him."

Bhaavad Geeta - Chapter 7 verse 20: "Those whose intelligence has been stolen, worship materialistic things and the demi-gods." (meaning the false gods)

Bhaavad Geeta- Chapter 10 verse 3: "He is unborn, the Supreme Lord of all of the worlds."

Glorious Qur'aan: Chapter1, verse 1 - "All praises be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of all the worlds."

Yajurveda, chapter 32, verse 3: "Of Him there are no images, He is unborn, He alone must be worshipped."

Yajurveda, chapter 40, verse 8/9: "He is imageless and Pure. They are entering darkness those who worship the natural things (like water, fire, air) and those who worship the created things are entering more into darkness (like table, chair, idols, pictures etc)."

Atharvaveda, book 20, hymn 58, verse 3: "Verily great is Almighty God."

Among the Vedas, the Rig-Veda is the most sacred.

In book 1, hymn164, v 46, it says: "Truth is One, God is One".

Rigveda, book 10, hymn 114, verse 5: "God is One, sages call Him by a variety of beautiful names."

12 Kindly note: the words have been translated into English from Sanskrit. All quotations from the Hindu Scriptures can be verified by the Pundits/ Hindu Scholars -(Sanskrit)

13 He is unborn and there is nothing comparable to Him

In Rigveda, book 2, hymn 1, verse 3, there are 33 different attributes of God Almighty. One of them is *Braham'ma*. If you translate into English, it means *Creator*. If you translate it into Arabic, it means *Khaliq*.

Muslims have no objection if someone calls God Almighty Braham'ma in this context, meaning the Creator.

However, if someone says that Braham'ma has got 4 heads and on each head is a crown etc. then Muslims take very strong exception to that. *Moreover, you are going against the teachings of all the sacred books of Hinduism*, which forbids the portrayal of God in any form whatsoever!

Shatashvatara Upanishads, chapter 4, verse 19, says: "of Him there is no likeness." So how can anyone go against the teachings of the sacred Books they believe in?

Rigveda, book 2, hymn 1, verse 3: the name of God is given as "Vishnu". If one translates it into English, it means "*Sustainer/Nourisher*". In Arabic it translates into **Ar-Razzaaq**, one of the attributes of Allah, Who is also known as "**Rabb**¹⁴", Lord. Muslims have no objection if one uses the word "Vishnu" to describe one of the attributes of God as Sustainer, or Nourisher. However, if one makes a physical description of Vishnu as having 4 hands, and each hand is holding a chakra, and is reclining on a couch of snakes etc., then Muslims object most robustly to this blasphemy. Moreover if any Hindu truly believes in the Hindu Scriptures then he/she will never utter blasphemy, as he will be going against all of the teachings of the Hindu faith!!

The Sacred Hindu Scriptures absolutely forbids any physical descriptions of God as the verses above prove!

Only by referring to the authentic Religious Scriptures of Hinduism will the common Hindu realise that the true concept of God is imageless and idol worship is totally forbidden and against the teachings of all the Holy Books of Hinduism. It is important to understand that the attributes of God Almighty should not conjure up any kind of mental picture by any means.

¹⁴ "Rabb" according to ar-Râghib al-Isfahânî means: "One Who fosters a thing in such a manner as to make it attain one condition after another until it reaches its goal of completion *as He wills*".

Concept of Allah (God Almighty) in Islam

The best answer to the concept of Allah in Islam is in **Surah Ikhlaas** ¹⁵ - **Chapter 112, vv. 1-4.**

"Say: HE is Allah the One and Only; ALLAH who is "As Samad" (the eternally besought of all, One who is totally independent, and on One whom the entire creation depends on) HE begetteth not, nor is HE begotten (born), and there is none like unto Him." (Nothing can be compared to Him)

The above verses are equivalent to:

Chandogya Upanishad chapter 6, section 2, verse 1.

Bhagvad Geeta chapter 10, verse 3; Shatashvata Upanishad chapter 6, verse 9; Upanishad chapter 4, verse 19.

It also corresponds to Yajurveda chapter 32, verse 3, which states "Of Him there is no likeness"¹⁶.

A few quotations from the Glorious Qur'aan:

"Allah is He, than whom there is no other god—Who knows (all things) both secret and open; He, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Allah is He, than Whom there is no other god—the Sovereign¹⁷, the Holy One, the Source of Peace (and perfection) the Guardian of Faith the Preserver of Safety, the Exalted in Might, the Irresistible. The Supreme: Glory to Allah! (high is He) above the partners they attribute to Him. He is Allah, the Creator, the Evolver, the Bestower of Forms (or colours); to Him belongs the Most Beautiful names: whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare His praises and glory: and he is the Exalted in Might the Wise." *Al- Qur'aan: Chapter 59:vs.22-24.*

Say: "Call upon Allah, or call upon Ar-Rahmaan¹⁸: by whatever name you call upon Him, (it is well) for Him belongs the most beautiful names."

Glorious Qur'aan chapter 17, verse 110

"The most beautiful names belong to Allah: so call on Him by them; but shun such men as use profanity in His names: for what they do, they will soon be requited". Glorious Qur'aan chapter 7, verse 180

It will be surprising to the common Hindus to learn that the name of God Almighty- ALLAH - as mentioned in the Glorious Qur'aan is mentioned in the

¹⁵ This small chapter of four verses is the touchstone of theology in understanding the concept of God Almighty

¹⁶ This verse deals a death blow to any form of idol worship

¹⁷ There are 14 attributes of God Almighty mentioned in just one verse. None of them conjures any mental picture as these are His powers that are over His creation

¹⁸ Means the "Beneficent"

Scriptures of all the major religions, including the Sacred Scriptures of the Hindus!

In Rigveda, Book 2, Hymn 1, verse 11, God is referred to as ALLAH. ALLAH is also mentioned in:

Rigveda, Book 3, Hymn 30, verse 10; and also in Rigveda, Book 9, Hymn 67, verse 30.

Similarities between Islam and Hinduism on the other Four Pillars:

Pillar number 2: Salaah (Prayer) Muslims pray 5 times a day.

Fajr - Early morning prayer - approx 1 hour before sunrise

Zuhr - Mid-day prayer- 5-10 minutes after the sun has passed it's zenith

Asr - Late afternoon prayer- +/- 2 hours before sunset

Maghrib - Just after sunset - approx 3 minutes after sunset

Eisha - +/- 1 & half hours after sunset until midnight

Hindu Prayer

There are various ways that the Hindus pray. One such way is referred to as '**Sashtan**', which means "*to prostrate before God with eight parts of the body touching the ground*".

When one looks to the manner that a Muslim performs Salaah, it is with the eight parts of the body that one prostrates before Allah. They are: the forehead, nose, two hands, two knees, and the two feet. *Total=Eight parts of the body!*

Pillar number 3: Zakaat-Charity. (*Explained above*)

In Rigveda, Book 10, Hymn 117, verse 5; it says: Give charity to the poor, today you may be rich, but tomorrow you can be poor. Wealth circulates as a chariot wheel.

Pillar number 4: Saum-Fasting: The Muslims fast the full lunar month of **Ramadaan** each year. It is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar. There is complete abstention of eating of food, or drinking water or any liquid, and abstaining from sex from dawn to sunset. Fasting in Islam also extends to the eyes, and mind besides the physical fasting.

In Hinduism there are various ways to fast:

In the **Manusmathi Scriptures** Chapter 6, verse 24; also in chapter 4, verse 222; and Chapter 11, verse 204, it says to fast for one month.

Pillar number 5: Haj- Pilgrimage. Every Muslim that can afford to, has to go to Makkah once in a lifetime.

In Hinduism there are various types of Pilgrimage mentioned in the Hindu Scriptures. One such manner is mentioned in **Rigveda Book 3, Hymn 29, verse 4**, it says: The place to go for pilgrimage is "*Ilas'pad*". This word translates into English as: "*House of the One you Worship*". Also the word "**Priviti**" is referred to in this verse, which denotes '*centre of the earth*'.

The Qur'aan refers to the **Kaaba** in Makkah as "**Baitullah**", meaning the "House of Allah". *And if one looks at the map of the world, it will be seen that Makkah is in the centre of the earth.*

It is noteworthy that the place of worship as mentioned in the Hindu scripture states accurately where it is situated, namely: *the centre of the earth, which is the precise place that Makkah is situated.*

In Rigveda Book 1, Hymn 128, verse 1, and in Book 3, Hymn 29, verse 11 it states that is the place where "*Narashnsah*¹⁹" will come from. *And we know that the Prophet of Islam was born²⁰ in Makkah and lived there till age fifty three years until the unbelievers of Makkah, through their terrible persecution of him and his followers made them emigrate to Madinah.*

Hindu Reformers

When the British ruled India, they had a policy of divide and rule. (Even today they continue this nefarious policy). However there were certain learned Hindu scholars that were aware of this treachery of the British and to overcome this, they became reformers and leaders of their people. To mention a few:

1. Swami Dayanand-Saraswati. In 1875 he founded the Arya Samaj. He said that the Hindus should strictly follow the teachings of the Vedas, the foundation of which is the belief in One God, without idol worship.

¹⁹ This word is explained further on

²⁰ . The Prophet was born in 571 C.E.

2. Swami Vivekananda. Founder of Ramakrishna Mission. He said that Hinduism is a misnomer. The correct description of the followers should be Vedantists.
3. The Brahma Samaj, which is a relative new sect, has enshrined in their Trust Deed that there must be *no sculptor, no picture, no graven image, no photo, no picture, no painting, and none of the above should even be allowed into the building of the group!*
4. Justice Ramada started the Prarthana Samaj which also subscribed to the Brahma Samaj's Trust Deed.

Two types of people as mentioned in both Scriptures

In Rigveda book 10, hymn 71, verse 4, it mentions that: "*they have eyes but do not see, and they have ears but do not hear*", meaning that they have been given the faculties but because of the darkness of worshipping material objects their understanding has been stolen, and they cannot have true belief in the imageless God that is mentioned in the Scriptures.

The similar message is stated in the Glorious Qur'aan:

"Deaf, dumb and blind, they will not return (to the path). Glorious Qur'aan, chapter 2, verse 18

"And cover not the truth with falsehood, nor conceal the truth when you know it". Glorious Qur'an chapter 2, v.42

Imam Ghazzali, one of the luminous scholars of Islam explains brilliantly the concept of God in his book "*The Revival of the Religious Sciences*" Vol 1-page 130:

"God has got no length and breath as these are attributes of a body which is an originated thing. Its Creator existed from before it. So how would He enter in a body, as He existed by Himself before all originated things and there was nobody along with Him? He is an All Knowing, Almighty, Willing Creator. These attributes are impossible for a body. He exists by Himself without the substances of a body. He is not like any worldly thing, rather He is ever Living, ever Lasting, and nothing is like Him. Where is the similarity of the Creator with the created, the Fashioner with the fashioned? Hence it is impossible that anything can ever resemble Him!"

Chapter Two

COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED BY HINDUS ABOUT ISLAM:

Question: Is Not Hinduism The Oldest & Best Religion?

Answer: 1. Islam²¹ is the first and the oldest of all religions. People have a misconception that Islam started 1,400 years ago and that Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is the founder of this religion.

Islam existed since time immemorial, ever since man first set foot on this earth. Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is not the founder of Islam. He was the last and final Messenger of Almighty God.

2. The name Islam means “**submission to the Rabb**” of the `Alameen (Creator of mankind, jinn, angels and everything that exists). The first man, *Adam bowed his will to the will of Allah, so the religion of submission, Islam, was established since the time of the first man on earth*. However, the name of Islam could not be applied until the revelation of the Glorious Qur'an in which the Laws pertaining to the existence of man on earth reached its perfection (completion), as stated in chapter 5, verse 4 of the Glorious Qur'aan.

The names of all other religions are named after a person or place, so in reality it means that whoever follows those religions is in fact following a person or place and not the Creator whose religion has to be named by Him or known by His name.

Examples: Hinduism²² is named after the Indus valley or river, so in reality *this religion can only be followed by those living in that geographical area and no other*. Judaism is named after Judah. So in other words the people who lived during the time of Judah could follow him while he was alive on this earth. When he died '*his religion*' came to an end.

Jesus followed the Law; Torah (Matthew Ch5 v17-20) and exhorted his followers also to follow the Law of Moses (Torah). Zoroastrianism is named after Zoroaster, and Buddhism is named after Buddha, and so on.

21 The word **Islam** means peace and submission to the will of God Almighty; and the submission to His will has to be the **Oldest Religion**. In other words the name Islam could only be applied when the completed orders of God Almighty were revealed in the Last and Final Testament-**Al Qur'aan**.

22 According to the learned scholars of Hinduism, the correct name should be **Vedantists** as the holiest Hindu scriptures are the ‘Vedas’ for the Hindus

A religion of God has to be named by Him alone, as He would never allow a name of any person or place to be the name of His religion. Furthermore, God's religion is for all peoples and from all places²³, so it has to have a perfect name. *The only perfect name for God's religion is Islam, which means Peace and Submission to God Almighty Alone!* Also, one of the attributes mentioned in the Glorious Qur'aan of Allah is "The Giver of Peace and Security".

And peace is the essence Islam as it establishes this peace between the created and the Creator. Islam frees man from the servitude of kings and idols²⁴. And the one word to describe this submission to God Almighty is called ISLAM!

3. All Prophets from Adam to Muhammed (pbuh) were sent with ONE message, that is, the total submission to One God. The name **Islam** has been given by Allah Himself, as mentioned in *Surah 5:v3*: of the Qur'an:

"This day have I (Allah) perfected your religion for you and completed MY favour upon you, and have chosen for you Al-Islam as your religion and as the way of life".

Neither the name Judaism nor Christianity is found in the Old Testament or New Testament of the Bible, and not even in a Bible dictionary. No Israelite prophet mentioned the word Judaism. **Jesus never claimed to establish Christianity on earth and never called himself a Christian.**

The word Christian is mentioned only three times in the New Testament. The first time by pagans and Jews in Antioch about 43 A.D., long after Jesus had left this earth. Read in *Acts 11:26*: "...*And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.*"

Later by King Agrippa II to Paul in *Acts. 26:28*: "*Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*"

So the name Christian was first given by enemies rather than friends. And finally by Peter in his letter to comfort the faithful in *I Peter 4:16*: "*Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed...."*

The first Muslim on earth was **Adam** (pbuh) who submitted his will to the will of Allah.

23 Every country on earth and for every nationality

24 The word idols is used here for - materialism, glorifying film stars; & soccer & cricket players & idol worship

Islam as a way of life

"Seek ye other than the religion of Allah, when unto Him submitteh whosoever is in the heavens and the earth, willingly or unwillingly, and unto Him they will be returned. Say - we [Muslims] believe in Allah, and in what is revealed to us and what was revealed to Ebrahim, Ismā'īl, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and that which was vouchsafed unto Moses, Jesus, and the Prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between one and another amongst them, and to Allah do we bow, and submit our will in Islam." *Al-Qur'aan - Chapter 3 V.83, 84*

Moreover the religion's source of inspiration and direction should be Almighty God. The Qur'aan is the only religious scripture on the face of the earth which is in its original revealed language; **Arabic**. All the other religious scriptures have interpolations, additions, deletions and revisions. In other words they have been corrupted.

The Qur'aan has been **memorized by thousands of people in its original language - Arabic - since its revelation during the lifetime of the Prophet**. Today there are millions of people of all nationalities who have memorized it's every letter even though they cannot speak Arabic. Moreover, if you compare the copies made by Caliph Uthman from the original Qur'aan that is still present in the museum in **Tashkent** (Uzbekistan) and in the **Topkapi Museum** (Turkey), they are the same as the ones we possess today²⁵.

Allah (swt) promised in the Qur'aan, in *Surah Al-Hijr, chapter 15 verse 9*: "**We²⁶ have without doubt sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).**"

4. For a religion to be considered the best, it should have the solution to all the problems of mankind and should be applicable to all ages. Islam is the only religion that has the solution to all the problems of mankind. E.g. the problems of alcoholism, rape, robbery, racism, murder, poverty, oppression, immorality, etc.

²⁵ Sir W. Muir, a staunch critic of Islam has testified to the originality and authenticity of the Qur'an in the 18th century by comparing the original to the copies that were used in his time. Even today, 1,425 years since its revelation, the Qur'aan is exactly the same in every letter!

²⁶ In Arabic and other Eastern languages like Hebrew, Hindi, and Gujarati etc there are two types of plural. One plural is of numbers and the other is of respect. The "WE" that is mentioned here (& in many places of the Qur'aan) is one of respect.

Islam is the religion of truth, and its laws and solutions are applicable to all the ages, as truth never changes. The Qur'aan is the only religious scripture on the face of the earth, which has maintained its purity, authenticity and relevancy proving it to be the Word of God at all times and climes, including the present age of science and technology. Moreover, Islam is not a man-made religion, but a religion revealed and inspired by Almighty God. It is the only religion acceptable in His sight as stated in chapter 3, v 85, and in other verses of the Glorious Qur'aan.

Question: If "Allah" Is The Most Appropriate Name For God As Is Stated In The Qur'an then is "Allah" Mentioned In Other Religious Scriptures Besides The Qur'aan?

Answer: Almost all the major religious scriptures of the world contain the word "Allah" as one of the names of God. In the Encyclopedia Britannica, 1990 Edition, vol. 1, and pg. 276 – it says, "*Allah is the standard Arabic word used by Muslims as well as by Christians.*"

a. **"Elohim El, Elah, Allah"**

In the Bible, God is very often referred to as 'Elohim' in the Hebrew language. The 'im' in the ending is a plural of honour and respect. God is referred to as 'El' or 'Elah' in the English Bible edited by Reverend C. I. Scofield. 'Elah' is alternatively spelled as 'Allah'. The difference in spelling is only of a single 'L'. Muslims spell Allah as 'Allah' while the Reverend has spelled it as 'Allah', and they pronounce it as 'Elah'. Muslims pronounce it as Allah. Hebrew and Arabic are sister languages therefore we say it should be pronounced as 'Allah' and not as 'Elah'.

Language is a medium of expressing thoughts. However, the pronunciation should conform to the dictates of that particular language. A few examples of pronunciations in the English language:

Phone is pronounced as "fone"; knife as 'nife'; heart as 'hart'; photo as 'foto'; write as 'rite'; quay as 'key'; and so on.

Similarly 'pint' and 'mint' are pronounced differently. If a non-English person asks "Why?" The answer is: "because it is their language, and they know the correct pronunciation." Similarly, the right pronunciation for A, L, L, A, H, is Allah, as pronounced by Muslims.

b. Jesus (pbuh) cried out 'Allah! Allah!' when he was put on the cross: It is mentioned in the New Testament in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter

27 verse 46 as well as Gospel of Mark, chapter 15 verse 34 that when Jesus (pbuh) was put on the cross / stake²⁷ he cried with a loud voice saying "*E'Li, E'Li, la'-ma sa-bach'-tha-ni?*" meaning 'My God, My God why hast Thou Forsaken Me?' If you translate "E'Li, E'Li la'-ma sa-bach'-tha-ni" into Arabic; it is 'Allah Allah lama tarak tani' - it sounds similar as one can see. This statement of Jesus (pbuh), "E'Li, E'Li la'-ma sa-bach'-tha-ni" is preserved in its original in each and every Bible translation which is available in more than 2,000 different languages of the world, and in each and every of them "Allah" is present.

***Allah* in Sikhism.**

One of the names by which Gurunanak Sahib referred to God is "Allah".

***Allah* in Rigveda Book 2 Hymn I verse II:**

Even in the Rigveda which is the most sacred scripture of the Hindus, one of the attributes given to God Almighty in Book no. 2 Hymn no. I verse II, is '**Ila**' which if pronounced properly is the same as Allah.

Allo-Upanishad:

Amongst the various Upanishads, one of the Upanishad is named as '**Allo**' Upanishad in which God is referred to as "Allah" several times.

The Glorious Qur'aan mentions in Chapter 7, verse 180: "**The most beautiful names²⁸ belong to Allah...**" A few have been mentioned above.

Question: Why Do Muslims Bury The Dead Instead Of Cremating Them Like Hindus? (i.e. Burning Them?)

Answer: 1. Components and elements that are present in the human body are present in the soil. Hence it is more scientific to bury a dead body, as it easily gets decomposed and mixed in the soil.

2. Cremating (burning) the dead body leads to pollution of the atmosphere, which is detrimental to health and harmful for the environment. There is no such pollution caused by burying a dead body.

27 The Christians are not sure if it was a stake or a tree, or a cross. The reason is that "all the disciples had forsaken Jesus and fled" so there were no eye witnesses to record the incident. There are guessing that it was whatever.

28 The beautiful names are really the qualities that reflect His power and mercy to humankind. We can say a person is merciful, but when one speaks of the mercy of Allah, there is no comparison as His mercy extends to all of His creation (unlimited) whereas a human beings mercy is to a few. (limited)

3. To cremate a dead body several trees have to be chopped, which reduces the greenery and harms the environment and the ecology. When dead bodies are buried, besides the trees being saved, the surrounding land becomes fertile and it improves the environment.
4. It is expensive to cremate a dead body when tons of wood has to be burned. Burying dead bodies is the cheaper option.
5. The wood used for cremating a dead body cannot be reutilised for cremating another dead body since it gets converted to ashes. The land used for burying a dead body can be reutilised for burying another body after a few years since the human body gets decomposed and mixed in the soil.

Question: According To The Qur'aan Prophets Were Sent To Each And Every Nation²⁹ Of The World by Allah, Then Which Prophet Was Sent To India? Can We Consider Ram and Krishna To Be Messengers Of God?

- Answer:**
1. a. The Glorious Qur'an mentions in Surah Fatir, chapter 35 verse 24: "And there never were a people, without a warner having lived among them (in the past)."
 - b. A similar message is repeated in *Surah Rad, chapter 13 v. 7*: "And sent to every people a guide."
 2. a. Allah (swt) says in *Surah Nisa, chapter 4 verse 164*: "Of some messengers We have already told thee the story; of others we have not."
 - b. A similar message is repeated in *Surah Ghafir chapter 40 verse 78*: "We did aforetime send messengers before thee: of them there are some whose story We have related to thee, and some whose story We have not related to thee . . .".
 3. Twenty-five Prophets of God are mentioned by name in the Qur'aan e.g. Adam, Noah, Abraham, Saleh, Luth, Moses, Jesus, Muhammed (pbut)³⁰.

29 According to a Hadith (saying) of the Prophet, it is mentioned that approx. 124,000 prophets were sent to the world. As the Qur'aan says: to every nation a prophet was sent so that mankind can have no excuse on the day of judgement against Allah!

30 PbuH means: peace be upon him/or her. Pbut means: peace be upon them

4. All the Prophets that came before Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) were sent for their own people and they were to be followed for a particular period of time.

Surah Ali Imran, chapter 3 verse 49; "And (appointed him-Jesus) a messenger to the Children of Israel," (a particular nation).

5. Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is the last and final messenger of Almighty God. It is mentioned in *Surah Ahzab, chapter 33 vs. 40:* "Muhammed is not the father of any of your men, but (he is) the Messenger of Allah, and the seal of the Prophets: and Allah has full knowledge of all things."

a. It is mentioned in *Surah Ambiya, chapter 21 vs. 107:* "We sent thee not, but as a mercy for all creatures."

b. A similar message is repeated in *Surah Saba, chapter 34 verse 28:* "We have not sent thee but as a universal (Messenger) to humankind, giving them glad tidings, and warning them (against sin), but most men understand not." (*Al Qur'aan 34:28*)

c. It is mentioned in *Sahih Bukhari³¹, volume 1, Book of Salaah, chapter 56 hadith no. 429:* Narrated Jabir bin Abdullah: Allah's Messenger said, "Every Prophet used to be sent to his nation only, but I have been sent to all of mankind."

6. In view of the fact that the names of Ram and Krishna are nowhere to be found in the Qur'aan and Sahih Hadith, one cannot say positively whether they were prophets of God or not.

7. An important point to remember is that even if Ram and Krishna were prophets of God, they were meant for their people only, and were to be followed only for that particular period of time. Today, all the human beings throughout the world, including India should only follow the last and final Prophet and Messenger of God - Prophet Muhammed (pbuh).

³¹ The sayings of the Prophet are recorded separately in this works

Question: The Qur'aan States That Allah Has Sent His Revelations In Every Period, Then Which Revelation Was Sent To India? Can We Consider The Vedas And Other Hindu Scriptures To Be The Word Of God?

Answer:

1. The Glorious Qur'aan mentions in *Surah Rad, chapter 13 vs. 38*: "For each period is a book (revealed)." Meaning that there were many revelations sent by Allah to the appointed Prophets over the centuries, but the message³² was valid for his time and for his people only.
2. Only four revelations of God are mentioned by name in the Glorious Qur'aan.

1) At-Taurah was revealed to Prophet Moses (Moosa, pbuh)
2) As-Zabur was revealed to Prophet David (Dawood, pbuh)
3) Al-Injeel was revealed to Prophet Jesus (Eesa, pbuh)
4) Al-Qur'aan, the Last and Final Testament was revealed to Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) who is the last and final messenger. No other revelation will be sent thereafter.

3. It is mentioned in the Glorious Qur'aan:

- a. *Chapter 2 verse 2: "This is a Book in it is guidance sure and without doubt..."*
- b. *Chapter 14 verse 1: "Alif Lam Ra". A book which We have revealed unto thee, in order that thou mayest lead mankind³³ out of the depths of darkness into light . . ."*
- c. *Chapter 14 verse 52: "Here is a Message for mankind: let them take warning there from, and let them know that He is (only) One God: let men of understanding take heed."*

32 Every revelation that came prior to the Glorious Qur'aan was valid only for a particular people and for a particular time period. The Glorious Qur'aan is meant for all time

33 The word "Mankind" that is used here is very significant, as no other Revelation has mentioned that it is for the whole of mankind. In the Old Testament as well as the New Testament of the Jews and Christians it states very clearly that the Messages were for the Bani Israel only. The Qur'aan is the only Revelation that states unequivocally that it is for ALL MANKIND in many verses!

d. *Chapter 2 verse 185: "Ramadaan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'aan, as a guide to mankind, also clear (signs) for guidance and judgement (between right and wrong)."*

e. A similar message is repeated in *Chapter 39 vs.41: "Verily We have revealed the Book to thee in Truth, for (instructing the whole of) mankind."*

1. Since the names of the Vedas and other Hindu scriptures are nowhere to be found in Qur'aan and Sahih Hadith, one cannot say that they were the revelations of God. However, *even if* the Vedas and the other scriptures were revelations from God, they were only meant for people of that time and were to be followed only for that particular period of time. Today all human beings throughout the world should follow only the last and final Revelation of God, i.e. the Glorious Qur'aan. Moreover, since all the previous revelations were not meant to be followed for eternity, Almighty God did not preserve them in their original form.

2. *Except for the Glorious Qur'aan, there is not a single religious scripture of any religion, which claims to be the Word of God, which has maintained its pure original text and is free from alteration, adulteration and interpolation. However, there are a few fragments of truth still found in them.* Since the Glorious Qur'aan is to be followed for eternity, Allah has taken it upon Himself to maintain its original purity and guard it from corruption, as Allah says in the *Glorious Qur'aan chapter 15 verse 9: "We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).*"

3. Interestingly, a Hindu Professor by the name of Pundit **Vedaprakash Upadhyay**³⁴ has written a book titled "**Kalki Avatar**³⁵", in which he proves that Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is the AVATAR mentioned in the Holy Books of the Hindus. His research has been endorsed and certified by no less than EIGHT HINDU PUNDITS. In his book he states that all the Hindus of the world should accept Muhammed (pbuh) as the long awaited messenger of the Almighty.

³⁴ This Professor is a research scholar at the Allahabad University of India, and the abovementioned facts have been taken from the "Sunday Standard" of Nairobi, Kenya.

³⁵ See further on for the Prophecies of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) in the Hindu Scriptures

Question: Is It True That Hinduism Scriptures Forbids Idol Worship³⁶, And Where Is This Stated In The Hindu Scriptures?

Answer:

The fundamental principal of the Vedas regarding the concept of God is that He has got no image.

If you ask a common Hindu how many gods he believes in, he may say 3, some may say 33, and some may say a 1000, while others may say, 330 million. *But if you ask a Hindu Brahman, who knows his Religious Scriptures; he will tell you that a Hindu should actually believe and worship only in One Imageless God.* So let us analyze the concept of God in Hinduism through their Religious Scriptures.

The most popular amongst all the Hindu Religious Scriptures, is the 'Bhagwat Geeta'. *The Bhagwat Geeta says in Ch. No. 7, V. No. 20 - 'That those whose intelligence has been stolen by material desires, they worship the demi-gods. Deprived of knowledge by this or that desire, men resort to other deities.'*

It means that the materialistic people worship false gods - not the true Almighty God. The Upanishads are the other Sacred Scriptures of the Hindus.

It is mentioned in the *Chandogya Upanishad, Ch.No. 6, Section No. 2, Verse No.1*. '*God is one only... 'Ekam Avidetuim'... not a second', meaning - there is only God, He doesn't have any partner, He is alone'*. It corresponds to what the Holy Qur'an states in Surah Ikhlas, Ch. No. 112, V. No.1, '*Say He is Allah, One and only*'.

It is mentioned in the *Sweta Sutara Upanishad, Ch. No. 6, Verse No. 9, 'Na Kasia Kasji Janita Nakadipa'*, which means....'Of Him there is no parents, nor Lord'; He has got no parents, He has got no masters - He alone is sufficient, He is not dependent on anyone else.' As the Holy Qur'aan says in Surah Ikhlas, Ch. No. 112, v. No. 3: '*He begets not, nor is He begotten*' The quotation from '*Upanishads*', was translated by S. Radha Krishnan. Further, if you read in the *Sweta Sutara Upanishads, Ch. No. 4, V. No. 19, it says ... 'Natastiya Pratima Asti'* which means: '*There is no likeness of Him*'.

This corresponds with the *Holy Qur'aan, Surah Ikhlas, Ch. No. 112; Verse No. 4 - 'There is nothing like Him'*. In the next verse of the *Sweta*

³⁶ In this answer most of the verses previously quoted are repeated here as it forms part of the answer to this important question.

Sutara Upanishads, Ch.No.4 Verse No. 20, it says - 'His form cannot be seen, No one can see Him with the eyes³⁷'. This is similar to the message that is given in the Holy Qur'an in Surah Anam, Ch.No.6, and V.No.103...'*No vision can grasp Him, but He grasps all vision, He is beyond comprehension, yet He is acquainted with all things.'*

Amongst all the Religious Scriptures of the Hindus, the most sacred are the Vedas, and there are principally 4 Vedas - the Rigved, the Ajurved, the Samved, and the Atharvaved. The Rigved deals with 'Songs of praises'; the Ajurved deals with 'Sacrificial formulas', the Samved with Melody, and the Atharvaved with Magical formulas.

It is mentioned in the Ajurved, Ch. No. 32, Verse No. 3... '*Natasti Pratima Asti' - There is no image of Him. He is unborn, and He should be worshipped.'*

It is mentioned in the *Yasjurved, Ch. No. 40, V. No.8* that '*God is bodiless and Pure.*' It is further mentioned in the Ajurved, Ch. No. 40, V. No. 9, '*and asma Pravishanti Ya Sambaiti Upaste*', which means - "*They are entering darkness those who worship the Asambuti*'. The 'Asambuti' are the natural things like air, water, and fire. And the verse continues, ... "*they are sinking more in darkness, those who worship the 'Sambuti'.*" The 'Sambuti' are the 'created things'. The quotation given of Ajurved is by Devichand as well as by Ralrh T. Grefith.

The other Veda is the 'Atharvaved'. It is mentioned in Atharveda, Book No. 20, Ch. No. 58, Verse No. 3 - It says '*Dev Maha Osti*'... '*God is verily great*'. Similar in Arabic as '*Allahu-Akbar*' - English - **Allah is the Greatest.**

The Vedas are the most sacred and the oldest amongst all the Vedas is the Rigveda. It is mentioned in the *Rigved, Book. No. 1, Hymn No. 164, Verse No. 46...* '*Sages call one God by many names*'.

In other words, there are a variety of names³⁸ given to this One God, and the Rigved alone gives no less than 33 different attributes to Almighty God - most of which are mentioned in Rigved, Book 2 Hymn No. 1; and

³⁷ some cruel fraudsters tricked the people into believing the shapes and forms they made is that of God, when it clearly states that NO ONE CAN SEE HIM! Even in Christianity the same type of things are happening with photo's and statues

³⁸ The word 'names' is used for convenience. The real meaning is that these 'names' are the descriptions of the Attributes of God Almighty.

one of the beautiful attribute which is mentioned in Rigved of the Almighty God is 'Brahama', which is mentioned in Rigved, Book No. 2, Hymn No.1, Verse No.3. 'Brahama' means, 'The Creator'. If you translate into Arabic, it means 'Khaalik'. Muslims have got no objection if anyone calls Almighty God, Allah Subhana Wa Taala as 'Khaalik', or 'Creator' or 'Brahama'. But if someone describes 'Brahama' - Almighty God- that he has got four heads, and on each head is a crown, and he has got four arms etc., then Muslims take very strong objection to it. *Moreover, it is even prohibited in the Ajurved, Ch. No. 32; Verse No. 3, which says... 'Natasty Pratima Asti'- There is no image of Him.*

Another beautiful attribute, which is given in the Rigved, Book No. 2, Hymn No.1, Verse No. 3, is 'Vishnu' which means 'The Sustainer'. If you translate into Arabic, it means 'Ar-Razzaaq'. We Muslim have got no objection if someone calls Almighty God as 'Rabb' or Ar-Razzaaq or 'Cherisher', 'Sustainer' or 'Vishnu'. However, if someone says that 'Vishnu' is Almighty God who has got 4 hands, and one of his right hand holds the 'Chakra' that is the diskettes, and one of his left hand holds the conch and he is riding on a bird, or reclining on a couch of snakes, we Muslims take strong objection to it. *You are going against the Ajurved, Ch. No. 40, V. No. 8, which says:*

'God is body less' - and in the Upanishads, Ch. No. 4, Verse No. 19, of Sweta Satra Upanishad, which says: 'Natasty Pratima Asti'... 'There is no likeness of Him'. It is mentioned in the Rigveda Book. No. 8, Hymn No. 1, Verse No. 1 'Maach dangadi Samshata' - that means... 'Do not worship anyone besides Him alone - Praise Him alone'. It is mentioned in the Rigved, Book No. 5, Ch. No. 81, Verse No. 1, - 'Verily great is the glory of the Divine Creator.'

Same as Surah Fatihah, Chapter 1 V. No. 2... '*Alhamdulillah hi Rabbil 'Alameen'*... 'Praise be to Allah the Lord of the worlds.' It is further mentioned in *Rigved, Book No. 3, Hymn No. 34, Verse No.1, 'He is the Bountiest Giver.'* It is further mentioned in the Ajurved, Ch.No.40, V. No. 16 - '*Lead us to the good path, and save us from the sin which makes us wander and go astray.'*'

The above is similar to the verse in the Holy Qur'aan, in Surah Fatihah Ch. No.1, Verse No. 6 and 7 - '*Show us the straight path, the path of those who have earned thine favour, and the path of those who go not astray.'*'

It is stated in Rigved, Book No. 6, Hymn No. 45, verse No. 16...'*Ya ekt it mustihi*' - 'Praise Him who is Matchless and Alone.'

(The quotations given are from the Rig-Veda translated by Satya Prakash Narayan and Satyakam Vidyalankar, as well as by Ralph.T.Griffith, Vols. I & II. The I.R.F³⁹ has various translations of Religious Scriptures of various Religions. So whatever quotations are given, and if anyone wants to verify them, they are most welcome to contact Islamic Research Foundation for a Photostat copy. All these translations which are quoted are not done by Muslims – but by the scholars of Hinduism who follow that religion, as well as by Orientalists)

The ‘Brahma Sutra’ of Hinduism, of the Vedanta - the main teaching is, ‘**Akkum Brahma Dusta Nastim - Niya nastim Kincham**’ ‘**Bagwan Ek hi hai, dhusra nahi hai, nahi hai, nahi hai, zara bhi nahi hai**’. Which means: ‘There is only one God, not a second one, not at all, not at all, not in the least bit’. So according to the Hindu Scriptures themselves you will understand the concept of God in Hinduism is to believe in One God only and there is no such teaching of idol worship.

There are more than 1,000 prophecies mentioned in the Hindu Scriptures about the coming of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh). We shall quote⁴⁰ some of them below.

Quotations From The Hindu Scriptures, Predicting the Coming of Prophet Muhammed (Pbuh).

Hundreds of prophecies predicting the advent of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) are found in the following Hindu Scriptures - the Vedas, Upanishads and the Puranas.

Mahrishi Vyasa is greatly venerated among the Hindus as a great rishi and learned divine. He was a very pious and God fearing person. He arranged the Vedas under various divisions. The Geeta and Maha Bharat were his works. His greatest works is the compilation of the eighteen volumes of the Puranas.

39 I.R.F. stands for The Islamic Research Foundation. The details are: 56/58 Tandel Street (North) Dongri, Mumbai, India. Tel: 3736875/79. (six lines) email: zakir@irf.net. Website: www.irf.net

40 For a full list of quotations from the Sacred Hindu Scriptures, refer to Mr. A.H. Vidyarthi's 2 volumes of: “Muhammed in World Scripture”. Available from Adam Publishers & Dist. Website: www.adambooks.com. Email: apd@bol.net.in. The books contain references foretelling the coming of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) in the Scriptures of Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, & Buddhism. Kindly contact the compiler to get details of stockists of this book in South Africa.

The following quotation is taken from the Bhavishya Puran.⁴¹ :

"A malechha (a foreigner) spiritual teacher will appear with his companions. **His name will be Muhammed.** The Raja (Bhoj) after giving this Maha Dev Arab (of angelic disposition) a bath in the 'Panchgavya' and the Ganges water offered him the presents of his sincere devotion and showing him all reverence said: 'I make obeisance to thee. O Ye! The pride of human, the dweller of Arabia, ye have collected a great force to kill the devil and you yourself have been protected from the malechha opponents. O Ye! The image of the Most Pious God the Biggest Lord, I am slave to thee, take me as one lying on the feet.'"

(Ref: *Prati Sarg 111: 3, 3, .5-8. English Translation*)

In this tribute of the Holy Prophet, *Maharishi Vyasa* has enumerated the following most significant points:

1. The name of Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is clearly stated.
2. He is from Arabia. The Sanskrit word marusthal used in the prophecy means a sandy tract of land or a desert.
3. Special mention is made of the companions of the Prophet. These companions loved and revered him to such an extent that they gave up their lives and property to protect him. In the annals of history there has never been such devotion and love to anyone as these companions showed to the Holy Prophet.
4. He will be immune from sins, having an angelic disposition.
5. The Raja of India will show him his heart felt reverence.
6. God Almighty will give the Prophet protection against his enemies.
7. He will root out idol worship and will do away with all sorts of vices.
8. The Mahrishi claims to be lying at his feet.
9. He is the pride of mankind. (Parbatis Nath)

Further clear prophecies are mentioned in Bhavishya Puran in Shalokas 10-27. Mahrishi Vyasa has summarized the following about the Holy prophet as follows:

41 Printed by: Venkeshwar press-Bombay. Ref: *Prati Sarg 111: 3, 3, 5-8. English Translation*

1. The land of the Arabs has been corrupted by the evil doers, and Arya Dharma is not to be found in that land.
2. The present enemies will perish just as the former enemies like Abraha⁴² had perished.
3. In order to guide these opponents of truth, Mahamed (Muhammed) has been given the appellation of 'Brahma', and he is busy with the construction of his nation.
4. The followers of the Prophet will be circumcised, will keep beards, will not keep a tail (long hair on the back of the head of males), and their leader will create a great revolution.
5. There will not be any secrecy in his religion as he will preach openly and the call to prayer⁴³ (athaan) will be raised from the places of worship. (Mosques)
6. The flesh of swine will be unlawful for them, and the rest of the eatable animals (herbivorous) will be lawful; and this religion of meat eaters will be a divine cult.
7. They will be known as 'Musalmans' (*Sanskrit word*) on account of their fighting the irreligious people.
8. One prophecy states that *this Prophet will be a Camel Riding Rishi*. Camels are synonymous with Arabia and the Prophet owned two camels which he rode. No Brahmin or Pundit is allowed to ride a camel according to the Hindu Scriptures.
9. There are so many prophecies that it is recommended to purchase a copy of the book, "*Muhammed in World Scriptures*" by *Moulana A. H. Vidyarthi*; that expounds all the prophecies from the Hindu Scriptures as well as from the Christian, Judaism, Buddhists and others. It is available from Adams Publishers & Distributors⁴⁴ in India.

The Blessed name of that Prophet

The Vedic Rishi mentions the name of this Prophet as "*Narashnah Astvishyate*" which translates to "*Muhammed will be praised who is*

42 Refer to the Glorious Qur'an: chapter 105

43 Only in Islam is the call for prayer given by the Muezzin. The words that are called out are "Allah is Greatest, and Muhammed is His servant and messenger", "come to prayer, come to success"

44 Telephone-Delhi: 23284740, 23282550. Email: apd@bol.net.in. Website: www.adambooks.com

praiseworthy". It means that he will be praised by God Almighty as well as by human beings. The word "Narashnsah" has been translated as "Nareshu Ashansah yasya sah Manuashyesh's Parshansnih" which translates to 'the praised one among the people' - which is what 'Muhammed' means in Arabic.

It further says that this prophet will promote peace and equality among all the different nations of the world and bring about one brotherhood of humankind.

Look to this saying of the Prophet: "*None of you can claim superiority over another on account of caste, colour or creed. All of you are Adam's children and Adam was created from dust*".

All the above prophecies refer to the Prophet of Islam.

Question: How Can A Muslim Prove The Existence Of The Hereafter? (*Life after Death*) And What Does The Qur'aan Say Is The Reason For Human Beings Existence?

Answer: Muslims do not believe in the hereafter based on blind faith. Many people wonder as to how a person with a scientific and logical temperament, can lend any credence to the belief of life after death. People assume that anyone believing in the hereafter is doing so on the basis of blind belief. As a Muslim my belief in the hereafter is based on a reasonable and logical argument.

There are more than 1,000 verses in the Glorious Qur'aan pertaining to scientific facts⁴⁵. Many of these scientific facts mentioned in the Qur'aan have been discovered in the last few centuries. The facts regarding Embryology have been discovered only in the last 30 years, yet *the most detailed stages of the creation of a human being has been stated in the Glorious Qur'aan more than 1,400 years ago*. However, science has not advanced to a level where it can confirm every statement of the Qur'aan.

Take the following example: Suppose 80% of all that is mentioned in the Qur'aan has been proved 100% correct. About the remaining 20%, science makes no categorical statement, since it has not yet advanced to a level where it can either prove or disprove these statements. With the limited knowledge that we have, we cannot say for sure whether even a single percentage or a single verse of the Qur'aan from this 20% portion is wrong. Thus when 80% of the Qur'aan is 100% correct and the

⁴⁵ Refer to Dr. Zakir's book "Qur'an and Modern Science-Compatible or Incompatible?" or go to www.irf.net to download a free copy.

remaining 20% is not disproved; logic dictates that even the 20% portion is correct. The existence of the hereafter, which is mentioned in the Qur'aan, falls in the 20% ambiguous portion, which any reasonable logical person will say is correct.

"Every soul shall have a taste of death: and only on the Day of Judgement shall you be paid your full recompense. Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Garden will have attained the object (of life): for the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception." (Al-Qur'an 3:185)

Final justice will be meted out on the Day of Judgement. After a person dies, he will be resurrected on the Day of Judgement along with the rest of mankind and the final reward and punishment will be meted out in the hereafter. God Almighty may not punish a robber or a rapist in this world but he will surely be held accountable on the Day of Judgement and will be punished in the hereafter i.e. life after death.

Regarding the reason for the human beings existence, the Glorious Qur'aan states in chapter 51, verse 56:

"I (Allah) have not created jinn and humankind, except for My worship."

It is important for the followers of Hinduism to revisit the Vedas, and other Holy Scriptures of Hinduism to understand them better, so that they can worship God Almighty as He is supposed to be worshipped, without any images and idols!

Now it is over to the Pundits and Learned Hindu Scholars to convey the true concept of God according to the Scriptures to the followers of the Vedas and other Religious Scriptures of Hinduism!

The Glorious Qur'aan

The Qur'aan is a Living, Tangible Miracle, which answers every question of the reason of our existence. It has the solutions to every problem of mankind. It speaks for itself and needs no one to defend it as it has counter arguments to all arguments.

Let us put it to the test!

Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) is the last and final messenger of Allah sent to all the worlds and his message is valid till eternity. The Qur'aan mentions in ***Surah Al-Ambiya, Ch. No. 21, v 107...***

"That we have sent thee not but as a mercy to the whole of humankind⁴⁶, as a mercy to all the worlds."

The miracle (Al- Qur'aan) sent down to him by Allah is everlasting and examinable for all times. It proved itself to be a miracle 1,400 years ago, and it can be reconfirmed as a miracle today and forever. *The Qur'aan was not revealed all at one time - It was revealed over a period of 23 years in stages, part by part as foretold in Isaiah 28:10-11:*

"For precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to his people."

Qur'aan-Surah Baqarah, chapter 2, v. 2; "this is a Book; in it is guidance, sure, without doubt, to those who fear Allah;

Qur'aan-Surah Al'i-Imraan, chapter 3, v, 3: "It is He Who sent down to thee (Muhammed) (step by step) in truth; the Book confirming what went before it, and He sent down the Law (Moses) and the Gospel (Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind..."

Al-Qur'aan mentions many historical events that happened in the past that was un-earthed centuries later. *E.g.;* that of Pharaoh's body⁴⁷ which Allah has kept intact as a sign. In 1898, the mummified body of Merneptah was found in the valley of Kings in Egypt. In 1975, Dr. Maurice Bucaille, a Frenchman, with other doctors received permission to examine the *Mummy of Merneptah*, the findings of which proved that *Merneptah* probably died from drowning or a violent shock that immediately preceded the moment of drowning. Thus, the Qur'anic verse- "**that We shall save thee in thy body as a sign**" has been fulfilled by the Pharaoh's body being kept at the Royal Mummies room in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

46 Only Prophet Muhammed was sent for the whole of mankind as the Qur'an has stated a number of times. Jesus was sent only to his people, the Bani Israel as he stated many times as recorded in the Bible: MT 10:6 -But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. MT 15:24 - Jesus said: " I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel".

47 'Pharaoh' is actually a title of the leaders of Egypt. Today the leaders of countries are Presidents & Prime Ministers. The Pharaoh referred to here was the one who ruled Egypt during the time of Moses (pbuh) and who oppressed Moses (pbuh) and the Children of Israel and subsequently was drowned

This verse of the Qur'aan compelled Dr. Maurice Bucaille, who was a Christian, to study the Qur'aan. He later wrote a book 'The Bible, Qur'aan and Science', and confessed that the author of the Qur'aan can be none other than God Himself (Allah). Thus, he embraced Islam and became a Muslim.

Another prophecy mentioned in the Qur'aan that was fulfilled during the lifetime of the Prophet was that of the wars between the Romans and the Persians.

The Romans had just lost the war against the Persians and the idol worshippers of Makkah were rejoicing on the victory of their counterparts in worship i.e the Persians.

Allah revealed in the Glorious Qur'aan in chapter 30, v. 1-6, that in a short time the Romans will overpower the Persians; and that is exactly what happened approximately 9 nine years later.

Just visualize: Rome was devastated and the cream of youth lost in battle, but then to recover and defeat the enemy in a short duration of nine years is extraordinary. Yet Allah had promised this in His Book at the time the Romans had just lost the war.

Reflect on the fact that after the World War how many decades it took for Germany and Japan to recover and one will realise that 9 years is indeed a short space of time as the Glorious Qur'an states.

How to test?

The scientific community has a different approach. *They have what is called a 'falsification test'.* They will only study a theory if the discoverer of that theory will also present ways in which to prove his theory wrong. When Albert Einstein presented a new theory at the beginning of the 20th century of how the universe functioned, he gave 3 falsification tests along with his theory. He said that if the scientific community thought his theory was wrong, then they should perform those three tests and his theory will be proved wrong. The scientists examined it for 6 years and concluded that the theory of Albert Einstein was correct.

Al-Qur'aan has several falsification tests.

The Qur'aan is the ONLY scripture that has got not one, but several falsification tests.

Some of the tests to prove the Qur'aan to be the absolute word of Allah were meant only for the past, but some of them are applicable for all times. Let us take a few examples. The Prophet had an uncle by the name of Abu Lahab. He and his wife were two of the most antagonistic opponents of the Prophet and troubled him no end. They would abuse him physically and verbally. When the Prophet would meet and talk to any strangers to invite them to Islam, Abu Lahab would rebut what the Prophet had said. Because of Abu Lahab's atrocious and aggressive attitude to Islam, Allah revealed a chapter named 'Surah Lahab', Ch. 111 (5 verses) in the Qur'aan wherein Allah has condemned him and his wife to hell. It states:

"Perish at the hands of Abu Lahab! Perish he! No profit to him from all his wealth, and all his gains! Burnt will he be in a fire of blazing flame! His wife shall carry the wood as fuel! A twisted rope of palm fibre round her own neck!"

Indirectly it states that Abu Lahab and his wife will never accept Islam and become Muslims. *This Surah was revealed 10 years before the death of Abu Lahab.* In that span of time many of Abu Lahab's friends who were also vehement opponents of the Prophet embraced Islam, but Abu Lahab and his wife did not embrace Islam. Reflect on the fact that since he always lied against the Prophet, he merely had to verbalize one additional lie to disprove the Qur'aan by saying: 'I accept the message of the Prophet and am now a Muslim'. It was so easy for him to disprove the Qur'aan as he did not even have to behave like a Muslim, and the Qur'aan would have been proven wrong. *But he did not, and could not say it.*

No human being can ever make such a statement in his book as it leaves him open to being proven wrong even if the enemy will say it just for the sake of proving his opponent wrong. If the Qur'aan had been the word of the Prophet, the Prophet would never have made such a statement as Abu Lahab's friends were embracing Islam and the Prophet would have feared to make such a statement that could have been used against him if Abu Lahab had accepted Islam. It would have destroyed his credibility and destroyed his mission.

However, the Prophet read out the revelation as he received it from Allah, through the Angel Gibraeel as he knew that this was a divine revelation and only a divine revelation can make such an indisputable claim! This was a standing challenge to Abu Lahab for TEN YEARS before his death.

Another such example is in *Surah Al-Baqarah*, Ch. 2, v. 94 and 95, which says - 'they (Jews) say that the last home of Allah is meant for them alone and no one else; (O Prophet) tell them (the Jews) that if the last home (paradise) of Allah is for them (the Jews) alone, then tell them to seek for death. They will never seek for death because of the sins they have committed'.

This was revealed during a disagreement between the Jews and the Muslims, when the Jews claimed that paradise is for the Jews alone and not for anyone else. Allah revealed a verse stating: that if the Jews claim that paradise is especially meant only for them then they must seek (pray) for death.

To refute the Qur'aan, any one of the Jews present at that time - even a single one - should have said 'I seek for death' and the Qur'aan would have been proved wrong. Not even a single one of them could do it! Again it proves that only a Divine revelation can make such a claim. *It is known as a falsification test.*

People may say that all these tests are of the past, but how can we prove the Qur'aan wrong today. The beauty of the Glorious Qur'aan is that it has falsification tests for all period of times- for the past, present, future and till eternity.

The Qur'aan challenges in *Surah Isra*, Ch. 17, v. 88, 'that if all of humankind and jinns gathered together to produce the like of the Arabic Qur'aan, they will never be able to do it even if they helped each other'.

The Qur'aan is a miraculous book. The challenge to produce a recital like the Qur'aan is given in Surah Tur, Ch. 52, v. 34. Later on Allah made the challenge easier in Surah Hud, Ch. 11, v. 13, which says: 'Do they say he has forged it, then tell them produce 10 such Surahs forged and let them call for help from anyone besides Allah if they speak the truth.' And no one could produce 10 Surahs exactly like the Qur'an.

Allah then simplifies the test even further and says in Surah Yunus, Ch. 10, v. 38, that - 'Do they say he has forged it: say - produce One Surah exactly forged like the Qur'aan.' One Surah forged exactly like the Qur'aan and call to help anyone besides Allah if you speak the truth, and still they could not do it.

The smallest chapter in the Glorious Qur'aan is chapter 108, which has only ten words, yet no one has ever been able to meet the challenge to produce one chapter like the chapters of the Glorious Qur'aan.

Thereafter, Allah makes the test even simpler. The easiest falsification test⁴⁸ is in Surah Baqarah, Ch. 2, vs. 23 and 24, which says... '*And if you are in doubt as what we have revealed to Our servant from time to time - then produce a Surah somewhat similar to it. And call forth your helpers and witnesses if there are any besides Allah if you speak the truth, but you cannot - and of a surety you cannot - then fear the fire whose fuel is men and stones, which is prepared for those who reject faith.*'

The challenge was there 1,400 years ago, and it is here even today. Today, there are more than 20 million Coptic Christians -that is Christians who are Arabs by birth and Arabic is their mother tongue. The only thing they have to do is produce one Surah somewhat similar to the Qur'aan if they want to try and prove the Qur'aan wrong.

Non-Arabs may say that Arabic is not my mother tongue so where do I fit in this test. The Glorious Qur'aan has a test even for the non-Arabs and they can very well try their best.

"Do they not consider the Qur'aan with care? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein much discrepancy."
Holy Qur'aan Chapter 4, v. 82

The Qur'aan challenges anyone, that if you want to prove the Qur'aan wrong, then just point out a single contradiction or a single discrepancy, and the Qur'aan would be proved not to be the word of the God Almighty. *It is so easy.*

I know that hundreds of people have pointed out '*mistakes and contradictions*' in the Qur'aan. Believe me; all of them - 100 percent - are either out of context, misquotations, and mistranslations with which they try to deceive the people. So far no one has been able to take out a single contradiction, or a single mistake in the Qur'aan.

Example: Suppose there is a Sheikh who is very well versed in the history of Islam but is not well acquainted with scientific knowledge, and you inform him that there is a scientific mistake in the Qur'aan which he cannot clarify - just because he cannot clarify that 'alleged

48 The Missionaries have concocted a 'Furqaan' claiming that they have met the challenge of the Qur'an. It makes them very foolish when one reads what they have concocted as it is like a love song which has no guidance for humanity or any truth or anything which will be discovered in the future.

scientific mistake' in the Qur'aan, that does not mean that the Qur'aan is not the word of Allah - because the Glorious Qur'aan says in *Surah Furqan, Ch. 25, v. 59*, **that:** 'ask the person who is well acquainted with those things' - meaning that if you want to ask about science then ask a scientist, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, and he will clarify what the Qur'aan means in those verses.

Similarly, suppose any one of the audience points out an Arabic grammatical mistake in the Qur'aan which I cannot clarify since I am not an expert in Arabic that does not mean that the Qur'aan is wrong. The proper course is to go to an expert in Arabic and he will clarify the meaning. After these logical explanations no human being who believes in a God can say that Qur'aan is not from Allah.

The 'Theory of Probability'

Suppose there are two options and out of those two options one is right and one is wrong. The chances anyone will get the correct answer will be one out of two. In other words you have a 50% chance of getting the right answer.

1st example: if I toss a coin, the chance that you will guess correctly is one out of two. It is 50%. If I toss a coin the second time, the chances you will be correct the second time is one out of two, is still 50%. But the chances that you will guess correctly both times - first and the second toss - will be one out of two into one out of two, that is one fourth or 50 percent of 50 percent, which is 25 percent.

2nd example: throwing a dice - The dice has got six sides. The chance that I will be right is one out of six. The chance I will be correct all three times, the first, the second, and the third throw, will be 1 out of 2 into 1 out of 2 into 1 out of 6 (which equals 1 over 24).

Now let us apply this test of probability to the Qur'aan.

No: 1. The Glorious Qur'aan says that the world is **spherical**. What different shapes can a person think of the earth? Some may say it is flat, some may say it is triangular, quadrangular, 5 sides (pentagonal), hexagonal, heptagonal, octagonal, and some may say spherical. Let us assume that you can think of about 30 different shapes of the Earth. The chances of being right if any one makes a wild guess will be **1 upon 30**.

No: 2. Let us take the light of the moon. It can be its own light or it can be reflected light. The chance that one will guess correctly is 1 upon 2 (50%). But the chances that both guesses, that the earth is spherical and the light of the moon is reflected light, is 1 upon 30 into 1 upon 2, that is **1 upon 60.**

No: 3. In the desert of Arabia a person may make at least 10 thousand guesses of what a human being and all living creatures are made of; and the last that any one will guess in the deserts of Arabia is that human beings and living creatures are made of water. *Yet the Qur'aan says that every living creature is made of water. In Surah Al-Ambya, Chapter 21, v. 30, also in Surah Nur, Chapter 24, v. 45, that... 'Every animal is made up of water.' And in Surah Furqaan, Chapter 25, v 54, 'Every human being is made of water.'*

If you make a wild guess, the chances that you will be right are 1 upon 10 thousand. The chances that anyone will make 3 guesses and all 3 will be right - that the earth is spherical, that the light of the moon is reflected light, and every living being is made of water will be 1 upon 30 into 1 upon 2 into 1 upon 10 thousand which is 1 upon 60 thousand. It works out to a .00017 percentage. *This translates into almost zero.*

Let us take a few more examples: We also know very well that many times science takes u-turns, therefore I will quote scientific facts that have got evidence and have been proven beyond any doubts.

I will not talk about theories that are based on assumptions. I intend to give an objective analysis of the Muslim belief regarding the Divine origin of the Qur'aan, particularly in the light of established scientific discoveries.

Astronomy - The Creation of the Universe: 'The Big Bang'

Astrophysicists explain the creation of the universe⁴⁹ as 'The Big Bang.' It is supported by observational and experimental data gathered by astronomers and astrophysicists for decades. According to 'The Big Bang', the whole universe was initially one big mass (Primary Nebula) and then there was a 'Big Bang' (Secondary Separation), which resulted in the formation of Galaxies. These then divided to form stars, planets,

⁴⁹ a widely accepted phenomenon by astrophysicists

the sun, the moon, etc. *The origin of the universe was unique and the probability of it happening by 'chance' is nil.* The Qur'aan contains the following verse regarding the origin of the universe:

"Do not the Unbelievers see that the heavens and the earth were joined together (as one unit of Creation), before We clove them asunder?" (Al-Qu'raan 21:30)

The striking similarity between the Qur'anic verse and 'The Big Bang' is inescapable! How could a book, which was first read in the deserts of Arabia 1,400 years ago, by a person who was unlettered, contain this profound scientific truth?

Initial Gaseous Mass before Creation of Galaxies

Scientists agree that before the galaxies in the universe were formed, celestial matter was initially in the form of gaseous matter. In short, huge gaseous matter or clouds were present before the formation of the galaxies. To describe initial celestial matter, the word '*smoke*' is more appropriate than gas. The following Qur'anic verse refers to this state of the universe by the word **dukhaan** which means smoke.

"Moreover, He Comprehended in His design the sky, and it had been (as) smoke: He said to it and to the earth: 'Come ye together, willingly or unwillingly.' They said: 'We do come (together) in willing obedience." (Al-Qur'aan 41:11)

Again, this fact is a consequence to the 'Big Bang' and was not known to anyone before it was revealed to Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) in the Qur'aan. *What then, could have been the source of this knowledge? Makes you think, doesn't it?*

Shape Of The Earth Is Spherical

In early times, people believed that the earth was flat. For centuries, they were afraid to venture out too far for fear of falling off the edge! Sir Francis Drake was the first person who proved that the earth is 'round' when he sailed around it in 1597.

Consider the following Qur'anic verse regarding the alternation of day and night: "**Seest thou not that Allah merges night into day and He merges day into night?**" (Al-Qur'aan 31:29). Merging here means that

the night slowly and gradually changes to day and vice versa. This phenomenon can only take place if the earth is spherical. If the earth was flat, there would have been a sudden change from night to day and from day to night. The following verse also alludes to the spherical shape of the earth:

"He created the heavens and the earth in true (proportions): He makes the night overlap the day, and the day overlap the night." (Al-Qur'aan 39:5)

The Arabic word used here is '**Kawwara**' meaning 'to overlap' or 'to coil'- the way a turban is wound round the head. The overlapping or coiling of the day and night can only take place if the earth is spherical. The earth is not exactly round like a ball, but geo-spherical, i.e. it is flattened at the poles. The following verse contains a description of the earth's shape: "**And the earth, moreover, hath He made egg shaped.**" (*Al-Qur'aan 79:30*)

The Arabic word for egg here is '**dahaa-haa**' which means an ostrich egg. The shape of an ostrich egg resembles the geo-spherical shape of the earth.

Thus, the Qur'aan correctly describes the shape of the earth, though the prevalent notion when the Qur'aan was revealed was that the earth was flat.

Moonlight Is Reflected Light

It was believed by earlier civilizations that the moon emanated its own light. Science now tells us that the light of the moon is reflected light. However, this fact was mentioned in the Qur'aan 1,400 years ago in the following verse:

"Blessed is He Who made Constellations in the skies, and placed therein a Lamp and a Moon giving light." (Al-Qur'aan 25:61)

The Arabic word for the sun in the Qur'aan is '**shams**'. It is also referred to as '**siraaj**', which means a 'torch', or as '**wahhaaj'** meaning 'a blazing lamp' or as '**diya**', which means 'shining glory'. All three descriptions are appropriate to the sun, since it generates intense heat and light by its internal combustion. The Arabic word for the moon is '**qamar**' and it is described in the Qur'aan as '**muneer**' which is a body that gives off reflected light. Again, the Qur'anic description matches perfectly with the true nature of the moon, which does not give off light by itself, but it

is an inactive body that reflects the light of the sun. Not once in the Qur'aan is the moon mentioned as '**siraaj, wahhaaj or diya'**, nor the sun as '**'noor or muneer**'. This implies that the Qur'aan recognizes the difference between the nature of sunlight and moonlight.

The following verses relate to the nature of light from the sun and the moon: "**It is He who made the sun to be a shining glory and the moon to be a light (of beauty) and measured out stages for her; that you might know the number of years and the count (of time).** Nowise did Allah create this but in truth and righteousness. (Thus) He explains His signs in detail, for those who understand." (*Al-Qur'aan 10:5*)

"**See ye not how Allah has created the seven heavens one above another, "And made the moon a light in their midst, and made the sun as a (Glorious) Lamp?"** (*Al-Qur'aan 71:15-16*)

The Glorious Qur'aan and modern science are thus in perfect concurrence about the differences in the nature of sunlight and moonlight. Scientists are discovering facts today what the Qur'aan – Allah's word - has stated over 1,400 years ago.

In Surah Ar-Rahman, chapter 55 verse 5 Allah informs us that the sun and the moon follow exact computed courses.

"The sun and the moon follow courses (exactly) computed (calculated, reckoned)." Surah Rahman, chap. 55 verse 5

Today the scientists have proven this by being able to work out the '*rising*' and '*setting*' of the sun, as well as the '*birth*' of the moon, and the full moon decades ahead. Even the eclipses are worked out due to the exact courses that the moon and the sun follow.

The Sun Rotates

For a long time European philosophers and scientists believed that the earth stood still in the centre of the universe, and every other body including the sun moved around it. In the west, this geocentric concept of the universe was prevalent right from the time of Ptolemy in the second century B.C. In 1512, Nicholas Copernicus put forward his Heliocentric Theory of Planetary Motion, which asserted that the sun is motionless at the centre of the solar system with the planets revolving around it.

In 1609, the German scientist Yohannus Keppler published the '*Astronomia Nova*'. In this he concluded that not only do the planets

move in elliptical orbits around the sun, they also rotate upon their axes at irregular speeds. With this knowledge it became possible for European scientists to explain correctly many of the mechanisms of the solar system, including the sequence of night and day.

After these discoveries, it was thought that the Sun was stationary and did not rotate about its axis like the Earth. Consider the following Qur'anic verse:

"It is He Who created the Night and the Day, and the sun and the moon: All (the celestial bodies) swim along, each in its rounded course." (*Al-Qur'aan* 21:33)

The Arabic word used in the above verse is '**yasbahoon**'. This word is derived from the word '**sabaha**'. It carries with it the idea of motion that comes from any moving body. Similarly, if you use the word '**yasbah**' for a celestial body such as the sun, it would not only mean that it is soaring through space but would also mean that it is rotating as it goes through space. Most school textbooks have now incorporated the fact that the sun rotates about its axis.

The rotation of the sun about its own axis can be proved with the help of equipment that projects the image of the sun on the top of a table, so that one can examine the image of the sun without being blinded. It is noticed that the sun has spots which complete a circular motion once every 25 days i.e. the sun takes approximately 25 days to rotate round its axis.

The sun travels through space at roughly 240 km per second, and takes about 200 million years to complete one revolution around the centre of our Milky Way Galaxy.

"It is not permitted to the Sun to catch up the Moon, nor can the Night outstrip the Day: Each (just) swims along in (its own) orbit (according to Law)." (*Al-Qur'aan* 36:40)

"The sun and the moon follow courses exactly computed"**
(Al-Qur'aan: chapter 55, v. 5)

Both verses mention essential facts discovered only recently by modern astronomy, i.e. the existence of the individual orbits of the Sun and the Moon, and their journey through space with their own motion. The 'fixed place', towards which the sun travels, carrying with it the solar system, has been located precisely by modern astronomy. It has been given a name: the Solar Apex. The solar system is indeed moving in

space towards a point situated in the constellation of Hercules (alpha Lyrae) whose exact location is now firmly established. The moon rotates around its axis in the same duration that it takes to revolve around the earth. It takes approximately 29½ days to complete one rotation.

** One cannot help but be amazed at the scientific accuracy of the Qur'aanic verses. Should we not ponder: "Where did the source of knowledge contained in the Qur'aan come from?"

The Sun Will Extinguish

The light of the sun is due to a chemical process on its surface that has been taking place continuously for the past five billion years. It will come to an end at some point of time in the future, when the sun will be totally extinguished, leading to extinction of all life on earth.

Regarding the impermanence of the sun's presence, the Qur'aan says: "**And the Sun runs its course for a period determined for it; that is the decree of (Him) the exalted in Might, the All-Knowing.**" (*Al-Qur'aan 36:38*) A similar message is conveyed in the *Qur'aan in 13:2, 35:13, and 39:5*. The Arabic word used here is '**mustaqarr'**, which means a place or time that is determined. Thus the Qur'aan says that the sun runs towards a determined place, and will do so only up to a pre-determined period of time - meaning that it will extinguish.

The Expanding Universe

In 1925, American astronomer Edwin Hubble provided observational evidence that all galaxies are moving away from one another, which implies that the universe is expanding. The expansion of the universe is now an established scientific fact.

This is what the Qur'aan states regarding the nature of the universe: "**With power and skill did We construct the firmament: for it is We Who create the vastness (expanses) of space.**" (*Al-Qur'aan 51:47*)

The Arabic word '**musioon**' is correctly translated as '*expanding it*', and it refers to the creation of the expanding vastness of the universe.

One of the greatest astrophysicists Stephen Hawking, in his book, 'A Brief History of Time', says, "**The discovery that the universe is expanding was one of the great intellectual revolutions of the 20th century.**"

The Qur'aan mentioned the expansion of the universe, before man even learnt to build a telescope!

Botany - Plants Have Male and Female

Previously, humans did not know that plants too have male and female gender distinctions. Botany states that every plant has a male and female gender. Even the plants that are unisexual have distinct elements of both male and female. Qur'aan mentions:

"And of everything We have created pairs." (Al-Qur'aan 51:49)

"...And has sent down water from the sky, with it have We produced diverse pairs of plants each separate from the others." (Al-Qur'aan 20:53)

"Glory to Allah, Who created in pairs all things that the earth produces, as well as their own (human) kind and (other) things of which they have no knowledge" (Al-Qur'aan 36:36)

The Bee and Its Skill

"And thy Lord taught the Bee to build its cells in hills, on trees, and in (men's) habitations; then to eat of all the produce (of the earth), and find with skill the spacious paths of its Lord." (Al-Qur'aan 16:68-69).

Von-Frisch received the Nobel Prize in 1973 for his research on the behaviour and communication of the bees. The bee, after discovering any new garden or flower, goes back to tell its fellow bees the exact direction, and maps out how to get there, which is known as 'bee dance'. The meanings of this insect's movements that are intended to transmit information between worker bees have been discovered scientifically using photography and other methods. The Qur'aan mentions in the above verses how the bee with its skill, finds the spacious paths of its Lord.

The gender used for the bee in the above verses is the female gender (fa'slukî and kuli), indicating that the bee that leaves its home for gathering food is a female bee.

It took scientific investigations in the preceding 300 years to discover what is said in the Qur'aan 1,400 ears ago, even the fact that the bee was

a *female* that gathered the pollen. Prior to that it was believed that the worker bees were males, and that they reported to a Queen bee!

Medicine - Honey: Healing For Humankind

The bee assimilates juices of various kinds of flowers and fruit and forms honey within its body, which it stores in its cells of wax. Only a couple of centuries ago humans came to know that honey comes from the belly of the bee. But this fact was mentioned in the Qur'aan 1,400 years ago in the following verse: "**There issues from within their bodies a drink of varying colours, wherein is healing for men.**" (*Al-Qur'aan 16:69*)

We are only recently aware of the fact that honey has healing properties and is also a mild antiseptic. The Russians used honey to cover their wounds in World War II. The wound would retain moisture and would leave very little scar tissue. Due to the density of honey, no fungus or bacteria could grow in the wound. Dramatic improvements were visible in 22 incurable chest and Alzheimer's disease patients at nursing Homes in England who were treated by Sister Carole, a nun, with propolis, a substance which bees produce to seal hives against bacteria. A person suffering from an allergy of a particular plant may be given honey from that plant so that the person develops resistance to that allergy. Honey is also rich in fructose and vitamin K. The knowledge contained in the Qur'aan regarding honey, its origin and properties was discovered centuries after its revelation.

Embryology - Muslims Seek Answers

A group of Muslim Scholars, under the direction of an eminent Yemeni Scholar, Sheikh Abdul Majid Azzindani, collected information concerning embryology and other sciences in the Qur'aan and undisputed Hadith and translated it into English. They then followed the Qur'aanic advice: "**If ye realise this not, ask of those who possess the Message.**" (*Al-Qur'aan 16:43 & 21:7*)

All the information from the Qur'aan and the undisputed Hadith concerning embryology so gathered was presented to Prof. (Dr.) Keith Moore, who is a Professor of Embryology and Chairman of the Department of Anatomy at the University of Toronto, in Canada. At present he is one of the top authorities in the field of Embryology. He

was asked to give his opinion regarding the material presented to him. After carefully examining it, Dr. Moore said that most of the information concerning embryology mentioned in the Qur'aan and the undisputed Hadith is in perfect conformity with modern discoveries in the field of embryology and does not conflict with them in any way. He added that there were a few verses however, on whose scientific accuracy he could not comment *since he was himself unaware of the information contained therein*. There was also no mention of this information in modern writings and studies on embryology. One such verse is the very first revelation:

"Proclaim! (Read!) In the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created - Created man, out of a (mere) clot of congealed blood!" (Al-Qur'aan 96:1-2)

The Arabic word '**alaq'** besides meaning a congealed clot of blood also means something that clings, a *leech-like* substance. Dr. Keith Moore had no knowledge whether an embryo in the initial stages appears like a leech. To verify this he studied the initial stage of the embryo under a very powerful microscope and compared what he observed with the diagram of a leech. He was astonished at the striking resemblance between the two! *In the same manner, he acquired more information from the Qur'aan on embryology that was hitherto not known to him.*

Dr. Keith Moore answered about eighty questions dealing with embryological data mentioned in the Qur'aan and Hadith. Noting that the information contained in the Qur'aan and Hadith was in full agreement with the latest discoveries in the field of embryology, Prof. Moore said, "**If I was asked these questions thirty years ago, I would not have been able to answer half of them for lack of scientific information".**

In 1981, during the Seventh Medical Conference in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, Dr. Moore⁵⁰ said,

"It has been a great pleasure for me to help clarify statements in the Qur'aan about human development. It is clear to me that these statements must have come to Muhammed from Allah, because almost all of this knowledge was not discovered until many centuries later.

⁵⁰ According to unverified information, Prof. Moore has reverted to Islam due to his analysis of the Qur'an in the field of embryology. However he has retained his name as Prof. Keith Moore

This proves to me that Muhammed must have been a messenger of God or Allah as the Muslims call Him".

Dr. Keith Moore had earlier authored the book, 'The Developing Human'. After acquiring new knowledge from the Qur'aan, he wrote in 1982 the 3rd edition of the same book- 'The Developing Human'- incorporating the information gleaned from the Glorious Qur'aan. The book was the recipient of an award for the best medical book written by a single author. It has been translated into several major languages of the world and is used as a textbook of embryology in the first year of medical studies.

Dr. Joe Leigh Simpson, Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, at the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, U.S.A., proclaims: "...these Hadiths, sayings of Muhammed (pbuh), could not have been obtained on the basis of the scientific knowledge that was available at the time of the writer (implying in the 7th century). It follows that not only is there no conflict between genetics and religion (implying Islam) but in fact religion (Islam) may guide science by adding revelation to some of the traditional scientific approaches . . . there exist statements in the Qur'aan shown centuries later to be valid which support knowledge in the Qur'aan having been derived from God."

Drop Emitted From Between the Back Bone and the Ribs

"Now let man but think from what he is created! He is created from a drop emitted - Proceeding from between the back bone and the ribs." (Al-Qur'aan 86:5-7)

In embryonic stages, the reproductive organs of the male and female, i.e. the testicles and the ovaries, begin their development near the kidney between the spinal column and the eleventh and twelfth ribs. Later they descend: the female gonads (ovaries) stop in the pelvis while the male gonads (testicles) continue their descent before birth to reach the scrotum through the inguinal canal. Even in adulthood after the descent of the reproductive organs, these organs receive their nerve and blood supply from the Abdominal Aorta, which is in the area between the backbone (spinal column) and the ribs. The lymphatic drainage and the venous return also go to the same area. This is also a recent scientific discovery.

Sulaalah - Quintessence of Liquid

"And made his progeny from a quintessence of the nature of a fluid despised" (*Al-Qur'aan* 32:8)

The Arabic word sulaalah means quintessence or the best part of a whole. We have come to know now that only one single spermatozoon that penetrates the ovum is required for fertilization, out of the several million produced by man. That one spermatozoon out of several millions is referred to in the Qur'aan as *sulaalah*. We have also come to know now that only one ovum is fertilized out of the tens of thousand produced by the female. That one ovum out of tens of thousand is also referred to in the Qur'aan as sulaalah. This word also means gentle extraction from a fluid. The fluid refers to both male and female germinal fluids containing gametes. Both ovum and sperm are gently extracted from their environments in the process of fertilization.

'Nutfatun amshaaj' – mingled liquids: (*Al-Qur'aan* 76:2): "Verily We created man from a drop of mingled sperm."

The Arabic word '**nutfatin amshaajin**' means 'mingled liquids'. After the mixture of male and female gamete, the zygote still remains **nutfah**. Mingled liquids can also refer to spermatic fluid that is formed of various secretions that come from various glands. Therefore, **nutfatin-amshaaj**, i.e. a minute quantity of mingled fluids refers to the male and female gametes (germinal fluids or cells) and part of the surrounding fluids.

Sex Determination

The sex of a foetus is determined by the nature of the sperm and not of the ovum. The sex of the child, whether female or male, depends on whether the 23rd pair of chromosomes is XX or XY respectively. Primarily, sex determination occurs at fertilization and depends upon the type of sex chromosome in the sperm that fertilizes an ovum. If it is an 'X' bearing sperm that fertilizes the ovum, the foetus is a female and if it is a 'Y' bearing sperm then the foetus is a male. "**That He did create in pairs – male and female, from a seed when lodged (in its place).**" (*Al-Qur'aan* 53:45-46)

The Arabic word **nutfah** means a minute quantity of liquid and **tumnaa** means ejaculated or planted. Therefore **nutfah** specifically refers to

sperm because it is ejaculated. The Qur'aan says in: (*Al-Qur'aan* 75:37-39):

"Was he not a drop of sperm emitted (in lowly form)? Then did he become a clinging clot; then did (Allah) make and fashion (him) in due proportion. And of him He made two sexes, male and female."

Here again it is mentioned that a small quantity (drop) of sperm (indicated by the word *nutfatan min maniy'yin*), which comes from the man, is responsible for the sex of the foetus. Mothers-in-law in the Indian subcontinent usually prefer having male grandchildren and often blame their daughters-in-law if the child is not a boy. If only they knew that the determining factor is the nature of the male sperm and not the female ovum! If they were to blame anybody, they should rather blame their sons, not their daughters-in-law, since both the Qur'aan and Science prove that it is the male fluid that is responsible for the sex of the child!

Foetus Protected By Three Veils of Darkness

"He makes you, in the wombs of your mothers, in stages, one after another, in three veils of darkness." (*Al-Qur'aan* 39:6) According to Prof. Keith Moore, these three veils of darkness in the Qur'aan refer to: (i) anterior abdominal wall of the mother (ii) the uterine wall (iii) the amnio-chorionic membrane.

Embryological Stages

"Man We did create from a quintessence (of clay); then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed; then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a (foetus) lump; then We made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature. So blessed be Allah, the Best to create!" (*Qur'aan* 23:12-14)

In this verse Allah states that man is created from a small quantity of liquid which is placed in a place of rest, firmly fixed (well established or lodged) for which the Arabic word *qaraarin makeen* is used. The uterus is well protected from the posterior by the spinal column supported firmly by the back muscles. The embryo is further protected by the amniotic sac containing the amniotic fluid. Thus the foetus has a well protected dwelling place. This small quantity of fluid is made into

alaqah, meaning something which clings. It also means a leech-like substance. Both descriptions are scientifically acceptable as in the very early stages the foetus clings to the wall and also appears to resemble the leech in shape. It also behaves like a leech (blood sucker) and acquires its blood supply from the mother through the placenta. The third meaning of the word **alaqah** is a blood clot. During this **alaqah** stage, this spans the third and fourth week of pregnancy, the blood clots within closed vessels. Hence the embryo acquires the appearance of a blood clot in addition to acquiring the appearance of a leech.

Compare the readily available Qur'aanic knowledge with man's struggle with scientific findings: In 1677, Hamm and Leeuwenhoek were the first scientists to observe human sperm cells (spermatozoa) through a microscope. They thought that a sperm cell contained a miniature human being which grew in the uterus to form a newborn. This was known as the 'perforation theory'. When scientists discovered that the ovum was bigger than the sperm, it was thought by scientists like De Graf and others that the foetus existed in a miniature form in the ovum. Later, in the 18th century, Maupertuis propagated the theory of biparental inheritance.

The '**alaqah**' is transformed into '**mudghah**' which means 'something that is chewed (having teeth marks)' and also something that is tacky and small which can be put in the mouth like gum. Both these explanations are scientifically correct. Prof. Keith Moore took a piece of plaster seal and made it into the size and shape of the early stage of foetus and chewed it between the teeth to make it into a '**mudghah**'. He compared this with the photographs of the early stage of foetus. The teeth marks resembled the 'somites' which is the early formation of the spinal column. This '**mudghah**' is transformed into bones (*izām*). The bones are clothed with intact flesh or muscles (*lahm*). Then Allah makes it into another creature.

Prof. Marshall Johnson is one of the chief scientists in the USA, and is the head of the Department of Anatomy and Director of the Daniel Institute at the Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, USA was asked to comment on the verses of the Qur'aan dealing with embryology. He said that the verses of the Qur'aan describing the embryological stages could not be a coincidence. Later he said: "*I see nothing here in conflict with the concept that Divine intervention was involved when Muhammed (pbuh) recited the Qur'aan.*"

According to Dr. Keith Moore, the modern classification of embryonic development stages which is adopted throughout the world is not easily comprehensible, since it identifies stages on a numerical basis i.e. stage 1, stage 2, etc. On the other hand, the divisions revealed in the Qur'aan are based on distinct and easily identifiable forms or shapes, which the embryo passes through. These are based on different phases of pre-natal development and provide elegant scientific descriptions that are comprehensible and practical.

Embryological stages of human development have also been described in the following verses:

"Was he not a drop of sperm emitted (in lowly form)? Then did he become a clinging clot; then did (Allah) make and fashion (him) in due proportion. And of him He made two sexes, male and female." (*Al-Qur'aan* 75:37-39)

"...Who created thee, fashioned thee in due proportion, and gave thee a just bias, in whatever form He wills does He put thee together." (*Al-Qur'aan* 82:7-8)

Embryo Partly Formed and Partly Unformed

At the mudghah stage, if an incision is made in the embryo and the internal organ is dissected, it will be seen that most of them are formed while the remaining are not yet completely formed. According to Prof. Johnson, if we describe the embryo as a complete creation, then we are only describing that part which is already created. If we describe it as an incomplete creation, then we are only describing that part which is not yet created. So, is it a complete creation or an incomplete creation?

There is no better description of this stage of embryo genesis than the Qur'aanic description, "partly formed and partly unformed", as in the following verse: **"We created you out of dust, then out of sperm, then out of a leech-like clot, then out of a morsel of flesh, partly formed and partly unformed that We may manifest (Our Power) to you."** (*Al-Qur'aan* 22:5) Scientifically we know that at this early stage of development there are some cells which are differentiated and there are some cells that are undifferentiated – some organs are formed and yet others unformed.

Sense of Hearing and Sight

The **first sense** to develop in a developing human embryo is **hearing**. The foetus can hear sounds after the 24th week. Subsequently, the sense of sight is developed and by the 28th week, the retina becomes sensitive to light. The Qur'aan explains it thus:

"And He gave you (the faculties of) hearing and sight and feeling (and understanding)." (Al-Qur'aan 32:9) "Verily We created man from a drop of mingled sperm, in order to try him: so We gave him (the gifts), of Hearing and Sight." (Qur'aan 76:2) "It is He Who has created for you (the faculties of) hearing, sight, feeling and understanding: little thanks it is ye give!" (Qur'aan 23:78)

In these verses the sense of *hearing is mentioned before that of sight*. Thus, the Qur'aanic description matches perfectly with the recent discoveries in modern embryology.

General Science Fingerprints

**"Does man think that We cannot assemble his bones?
Nay, We are able to put together in perfect order the very tips of his fingers."** (Al-Qur'aan 75:3-4)

Unbelievers argue regarding resurrection taking place after bones of dead people have disintegrated in the earth and how each individual would be identified on the Day of Judgement. Almighty Allah answers that He can not only assemble our bones but can also reconstruct perfectly our very fingertips. Why does the Qur'aan, while speaking about determination of the identity of the individual, speak specifically about fingertips?

In 1880, fingerprinting became the scientific method of identification, after research done by Sir Francis Golt. No two persons in the world can ever have exactly the same fingerprint pattern, not even identical twins. That is the reason why police forces worldwide use fingerprints to identify criminals. Fourteen hundred years ago, who could have known the uniqueness of each human's fingerprint? Surely it could have been none other than the Creator Himself! Does it not make one ask: where did all this knowledge originate when reading all of the above scientific knowledge from the Qur'aan?

Pain Receptors in the Skin

It was thought that the sense of feeling and pain was dependent only on the brain. Recent discoveries however prove that there are pain receptors present in the skin, without which a person would not be able to feel pain. When a doctor examines a patient suffering from burn injuries, he verifies the degree of burns by a pinprick. If the patient feels pain, the doctor is pleased, because it indicates that the burns are superficial and the pain receptors are intact. On the other hand, if the patient does not feel any pain, it indicates that it is a deep burn and the pain receptors have been destroyed. The Qur'aan gives a clear indication of the existence of pain receptors in the following verse:

"Those who reject our signs, We shall soon cast into the Fire; as often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for fresh skins, that they may taste the Penalty: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise." (Al-Qur'aan 4:56)

Prof. Tagatat Tejasen, Chairman of the Department of Anatomy at Chiang Mai University in Thailand, has spent a great amount of time on research of pain receptors. Initially he could not believe that the Qur'aan mentioned this scientific fact 1,400 years ago, and refused to accept it. He later verified the translation of this particular Qur'aanic verse. Prof. Tejasen was so impressed by the scientific accuracy of the Qur'aanic verse, that at the 8th Saudi Medical Conference held in Riyadh on the Scientific Signs of Qur'aan and Sunnah, he proudly proclaimed in public:

"There is no God but Allah and Muhammed (pbuh) is His Messenger."

CONCLUSION

To attribute the presence of scientific facts in the Qur'aan to coincidence would be against common sense and a true scientific approach. Indeed the scientific accuracy of the Qur'aanic verses confirms the Qur'aan's open declaration. **"Soon will We show them Our Signs in the (furthest) regions (of the earth), and in their own souls, until it becomes manifest to them that this is the Truth; is it not enough that Thy Lord doth witness all things?"** (*Al-Qur'aan 41:53*) The Qur'aan invites all humans to reflect on the Creation of this universe in the verse:

"Behold! In the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of Night and Day – there are indeed Signs for men of understanding." (*Al-Qur'aan 3:190*)

The scientific evidences of the Qur'aan clearly prove its Divine origin. No human being could have produced a book fourteen hundred years ago, that could contain such profound scientific facts that are discovered in the 20th and 21st centuries.

The Qur'aan however is not a book of Science, but a book of 'Signs'. These signs invite humankind to realize the purpose of his existence on earth, and to live in harmony with nature. The Qur'aan is truly a message from Allah, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. It contains the same Message of the Oneness of God that was preached by all Prophets, right from Adam, Moses, and Jesus to Muhammed (pbuh). Several detailed tomes have been written on the subject of Qur'aan and modern science and further research in this field is ongoing. Inshallah, this research will help mankind to come closer to the Word of the Almighty. This booklet contains only a few of the scientific facts present in the Qur'aan. I cannot claim to have done full justice to the subject.

Prof. Tejasen accepted Islam on the strength of just one scientific 'sign' mentioned in the Qu'raan. Some people may require ten signs while some may require hundred signs to be convinced about the Divine origin of the Qur'aan. Some would be unwilling to accept the Truth even after being shown a thousand signs. The Qur'aan condemns such a closed mentality in the verse:

"Deaf, dumb and blind, they will not return (To the path)." (Al-Qur'aan 2:18)

The Qur'aan is an instruction manual for human kind and contains a complete code of life for the individual and society. *Alhamdulillah (Praise be to Allah)*, the Qur'aanic way of life is far superior to the 'isms'

that modern man has invented out of sheer ignorance. Only the Creator Himself can give the best guidance, and the Qur'aan is the Creator's guidance.

"Verily We have revealed the Reminder (Qur'aan) and certainly We shall be its guardian." (*Qur'aan* 15:19) "Do they not ponder over the Qur'aan? Had it been from anyone besides Allah, they would have found therein many a discrepancy." (*Glorious Qur'aan* 4:82) "Indeed We have brought the truth to you, but most of you have a hatred for the truth." (*Glorious Qur'aan* 43:78) "And who does greater wrong than he who is reminded of the revelations of his Lord, then turns away from them? We shall requite the guilty!" (*Glorious Qur'aan* 32:22) "...Nothing have We omitted from the Book, and they all shall be gathered before their Lord in the end." (*Al-Qur'aan* 6:38)

After applying this theory of 'Probability' to the Glorious Qur'aan and analyzing all of the above proofs that have been presented, any reasonable person will have no objection in accepting that the Qur'aan is a revelation from the Almighty Allah.

I pray that this humble effort is accepted by Allah, to Whom Alone belongs all praise, and to whom I pray for mercy and guidance for myself and all those who have submitted to His Deen, Al-Islam. (Ameen!)

In closing I wish to say that it is only the Glorious Qur'aan that time and again appeals to the intelligence of human beings to contemplate, reflect, study and think before believing and accepting anything. *That is why in Islam, understanding comes before belief.* There is no blind belief in the Islamic article of faith: "Belief in the Oneness of Allah and the Prophethood of Muhammed (pbuh)," as well as all the other articles of faith.

Was Salaam

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Compiler

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